

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Claim 1: (previously presented) A receiver adapted to receive data contained in a transmitted broadcast signal comprising:

- a tuner for receiving a broadcast signal;
- a memory coupled to the tuner for storing data in the received broadcast signal in a database;
- a user interface for providing a set of menus describing the database, and for accepting selections from the set of menus;
- a controller coupled to the memory and the user interface for selecting data from the database in response to the accepted selections and providing the selected data in a digital form; and
- a speech producing sub-system coupled to the controller and the memory for converting the selected data from digital form to an analog signal.

Claims 2-32 (canceled)

Claim 33: (previously presented) The receiver of Claim 1, wherein the memory stores the entire database.

Claim 34: (previously presented) The receiver of Claim 1, wherein the memory comprises a combination of a volatile RAM memory and a non-volatile memory.

Claim 35: (previously presented) The receiver of Claim 34, wherein the non-volatile memory is selected from the group consisting of an audio tape, a magneto-optical mini-disk, a magnetic disk or an optical disk.

Claim 36: (previously presented) The receiver of Claim 1, wherein the received data is audio data that has been converted from analog form to digital form.

Claim 37: (previously presented) The receiver of Claim 36, wherein the received audio data is digitized and has been compressed.

Claim 38: (previously presented) The receiver of Claim 36, wherein the received audio data has been encrypted.

Claim 39: (previously presented) The receiver of Claim 1, wherein the received data is alphanumeric data that has been converted from analog form to digital form.

Claim 40: (previously presented) The receiver of Claim 39, wherein the alphanumeric data is converted to voice data by a speech synthesizer.

Claim 41: (previously presented) The receiver of Claim 1, wherein the data is in digital form, has been encrypted and compressed, and further comprising a decryptor for decrypting the data.

Claim 42: (previously presented) The receiver of Claim 41, wherein said system has a decompression algorithm to decompress data that has been compressed at a transmitter prior to being broadcast.

Claim 43: (previously presented) The receiver of Claim 41, wherein the decryptor is enabled by a key received by the tuner.

Claim 44: (previously presented) The receiver of Claim 41, wherein the decryptor is enabled by a key device operatively connected to the decryptor.

Claim 45: (previously presented) The receiver of Claim 1, wherein the user interface is voice activated.

Claim 46: (previously presented) The receiver of Claim 1, wherein the user interface includes:

a manual input device adapted to be mountable on an automobile steering wheel; and
a link from the manual input device to the controller.

Claim 47: (previously presented) The receiver of Claim 1, wherein the user interface includes a control for determining a speed at which the speech producing sub-system outputs the analog signal.

Claim 48: (previously presented) The receiver of Claim 1, wherein the tuner channel skips to tune to a particular transmitter.

Claim 49: (previously presented) The receiver of Claim 1, further comprising:
an amplifier connected to the speech producing sub-system for amplifying the analog signal; and
means for converting the amplified signal to sound.

Claim 50: (previously presented) The receiver of Claim 1, further comprising means for connecting the receiver to an automobile radio set.

Claim 51: (previously presented) The receiver of Claim 1, further comprising means for designating by a broadcaster of the broadcast signal a hierarchy for the database.

Claim 52: (previously presented) The receiver of Claim 1, wherein the memory stores the data received in a random access memory up to the capacity of the random access memory before transferring said data to one of a disk medium or a tape medium.

Claim 53: (previously presented) The receiver of Claim 52, wherein the tape medium is a digital audio tape.

Claim 54: (previously presented) The receiver of Claim 52, wherein the disk medium is a magnetic disk.

Claim 55: (previously presented) The receiver of Claim 52, wherein the disk medium is a magnetic-optical disk.

Claim 56: (previously presented) The receiver of Claim 52, wherein the disk medium is an optical disk.

Claim 57: (previously presented) The receiver of Claim 1, wherein a speed of transmission of the data in the broadcast signal is varied to most efficiently use the available bandwidth.

Claim 58: (currently amended) A method for information dissemination comprising the acts of:

- receiving the information at a receiver;
- storing the received information in a database in memory in the receiver;
- providing a set of menus describing the database;
- accepting selections from the set of menus;
- selecting data from the database in response to the accepted selection;
- providing the selected data in digital form; and
- converting the selected data to an analog signal played from the receiver.

Claim 59: (previously presented) The method of Claim 58, wherein the received information is transmitted by a broadcast signal.

Claim 60: (previously presented) The receiver of Claim 1, wherein the memory is sufficient to store data representing the content of at least one entire program.

Claim 61: (previously presented) The method of Claim 58, wherein the stored information includes the content of at least one entire program.

Claim 62: (new) The receiver of Claim 1, wherein the receiver is adapted to receive and store in the memory continuous updates of the data.

Claim 63: (new) The receiver of Claim 62, wherein received items of data include a data stamp thereby to indicate currency of the data.

Claim 64: (new) The receiver of Claim 1, wherein the receiver is adapted to disable itself upon receipt of a command received via the tuner.

Claim 65: (new) The receiver of Claim 1, wherein the receiver is adapted to tune the tuner to a first frequency or station to receive a broadcast signal carrying data and subsequently to tune to a second frequency or station to receive a broadcast signal carrying the data.

Claim 66: (new) The receiver of Claim 65, wherein the receiver is adapted to tune to particular frequencies or stations across the entire FM radio or television bands.

Claim 67: (new) The receiver of Claim 1, further comprising conditional access circuitry coupled to the tuner and controller, and which decrypts the received data for storage to the memory.

Claim 68: (new) The receiver of Claim 1, wherein the controller is coupled to the tuner, and adapted to tune the tuner to a particular station or frequency to receive the broadcast signal.

Claim 69: (new): The receiver of Claim 1, wherein the data is stored in the database in the memory under control of the controller.

Claim 70: (new): The receiver of Claim 1, wherein the data is stored in the memory in encrypted form and decrypted when selected for play from the memory.

Claim 71: (new) The receiver of Claim 1, wherein the data is received in encrypted form, and each receiver is provided with a hidden key and a public serial number for decryption of the data.

Claim 72: (new) The receiver of Claim 1, wherein the data is received in encrypted form, and each receiver is provided with a master key for decryption of the data, the master key being provided in encrypted form.

Claim 73: (new) The receiver of Claim 72, wherein a key for decryption of the encrypted master key is a function of a key associated with each receiver.

Claim 74: (new) The receiver of Claim 1, wherein the data is received in encrypted form, and a key for decryption of the data is provided to the receiver in an electronically readable card coupled to the receiver.

Claim 75: (new) The method of Claim 58, wherein the receiver is adapted to receive the broadcast signal on a continuous basis and wherein the data stored in the database in the memory is from a plurality of broadcast transmissions at different times.

Claim 76: (new) The method of Claim 58, wherein the information in the broadcast signal is encrypted, the method comprising decrypting the information prior to storing the information in the database.

Claim 77: (new) The receiver of Claim 1, further comprising a converter coupled to the memory and that converts the digital data to a different format prior to being output from the receiver.

Claim 78: (new) The method of Claim 58,
wherein the receiver is adapted to receive the broadcast signal on a continuous basis; wherein the information is stored in the database in the memory from a plurality of broadcast transmissions at a plurality of different times;
wherein the information in the broadcast signal is encrypted, the method comprising decrypting the information; and
wherein the digital data is converted to a different format prior to being output from the receiver.

Claim 79: (new) The receiver of Claim 1, wherein the memory is adapted to store at least ten hours of audio information.

Claim 80: (new) The receiver of Claim 1, wherein the data comprises encrypted data items and wherein each data item is tagged with a designation to allow retrieval of the stored encrypted data item, and wherein the data items are stored in the database in the memory in encrypted form.

Claim 81: (new) The receiver of Claim 80, wherein the speech producing sub-system is adapted to decrypt the encrypted data items.

Claim 82: (new) The receiver of Claim 1, wherein the data is categorized, stored and accessed in the database in the memory under the control of the controller.

Claim 83: (new) The receiver of Claim 1, further comprising at least two output paths from the memory, wherein each output path converts the format of the digital data from the memory prior to output.

Claim 84: (new) The receiver of Claim 1, further comprising at least two paths coupled to the output of the memory, wherein the controller is adapted to select at least one of the paths such that the digital data from the memory is converted to a different format prior to being output from the receiver.

Claim 85: (new) The receiver of Claim 1, wherein the data has been encrypted, further comprising conditional access circuitry coupled to the controller for decrypting the data prior to storing the data in the database and a plurality of converters coupled to the output of the memory, wherein the controller is adapted to select at least one of the converters such that the unencrypted digital data from the memory is converted to a different format prior to being output from the receiver.

Claim 86: (new) The receiver of Claim 1, wherein the tuner is adapted to change the channel selected by the tuner such that the data stored in the database is received from at least two different channels.

Claim 87: (new) The receiver of Claim 1, wherein the tuner is adapted to automatically change the channel to receive the broadcast signal, the data has been encrypted, the data is stored and accessed in the database in the memory under the control of the controller, the memory comprises volatile random access memory and a non-volatile magnetic disk, and the memory is adapted to store at least ten hours of audio information, further comprising conditional access circuitry coupled to the controller for decrypting the data prior to storing the data in the database and a plurality of converters coupled to the output of the memory, wherein the controller is adapted to

select at least one of the converters such that the unencrypted digital data from the memory is converted to a different format prior to being output from the receiver.

Claim 88: (new) The receiver of Claim 1, wherein the set of menus includes at least a first menu providing a plurality of menu choices describing the database and a second menu selected from the first menu, the second menu including additional information describing the database and including a plurality of menu choices for selecting the data from the database.

Claim 89: (new) The receiver of Claim 84, wherein the set of menus includes at least a first menu providing a plurality of menu choices describing the database and a second menu selected from the first menu, the second menu including additional information describing the database and including a plurality of menu choices for selecting the data from the database.

Claim 90: (new) The receiver of Claim 87, wherein the set of menus includes at least a first menu providing a plurality of menu choices describing the database and a second menu selected from the first menu, the second menu including additional information describing the database and including a plurality of menu choices for selecting the data from the database.